

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted preliminary to the issuance of an Office Action in the present application and in response to the Official Action of July 21, 2008.

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 11-15 have been withdrawn from further consideration. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 18 has been added. Claims 3, 4, 8 have been canceled. No amendment to the specification has been made. No fee is due.

Record is also made of a telephone interview between applicant's representative and the Examiner which took place on October 21, 2008. The Examiner is thanked for his help and assistance as well as for the courtesies extended to Counsel at that time. During the course of the interview, the present application was extensively discussed and as a result of the interview, applicant now submits amendments to claim 1 which are drawn up in accordance with the agreement at the interview so as to overcome the rejection to the claims as set forth in the Examiner's Official Action of July 21, 2008. In addition, applicant now submits a new claim 18 to encompass the full scope of the invention as contemplated by the inventor. Support for the subject matter of claim 18 can be found in paragraph [0024] of the instant specification (page 6, ll. 5-7).

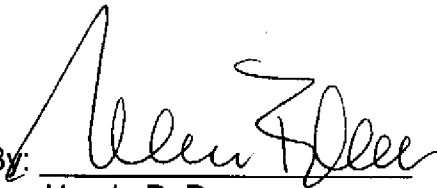
The Examiner agreed that the subject matter of claim 1 appears to be distinguishable over the prior art of record; however, an updated search is needed to make a final determination about patentability.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is considered patentably differentiated over the prior art of record and believed to be in immediate conditions for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are thus respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully requested that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. If the Examiner feels that it might be

helpful in advancing this case by calling the undersigned, applicant would greatly appreciate such a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Ursula B. Day
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 47,296

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708 Third Avenue
Suite 1501
New York, N.Y. 10017
(212) 244-5500
HMF:af